

NOVEMBER, 1896.

# Grace Church Visitor.



## DIRECTORY GRACE REFORMED CHURCH.

### SABBATH SERVICES:

Bible School, . . . . . 9:30 A. M.  
Church Services, . . 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.  
Y. P. S. C. E., . . . . . 6:45 P. M.  
Prayer Meeting, (Wednesday), . . . 7:30 P. M.

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# Grace Church Visitor.

*A Monthly Magazine Devoted to Christian Nurture and Fellowship,  
Aggressive Church Work and Applied Christianity.*

VOL. VIII.

NOVEMBER, 1896.

No. 8.

## THE MENS' SUPPER ON NEW YEARS EVENING.

The Mens' League will give their annual supper on New Years evening. A preliminary meeting has been held, and another meeting of the men will be called soon, when the arrangements will be completed. But the supper will be given and it will be up to date. It is pretty well settled that a roasted pig and oysters will be on the bill of fare for the supper, besides numerous side dishes, and a first class entertainment in the bargain. The tickets for the supper will be out soon.

## YOUR SUBSCRIPTION FOR CURRENT EXPENSES.

The financial secretary will issue the yearly statements to the members of the church so that they will receive them by December 20th. These statements will show the subscriptions for the year, the amounts paid up to date and the amount due January 1st. It is important that every member should pay the amount subscribed in full by January 1st. Our current expenses for the year should be paid, and the secretary and treasurer make their annual reports on January 1st, and the consistory is anxious to have everything ballanced as far as possible.

BEFORE buying your Christmas presents look through the advertisements in the VISITOR. Buy from the merchants who advertise with us. Always give them the preference.

## TO BEAULAH LAND.

Sabbath Evening Sermons at the Grace Reformed Church by the Pastor, Rev. A. K. Zartman, on Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress.—Illustrated with Large Paintings.—Topics.

Nov. 15.—Leaving the City of Destruction.

1 Pilgrim telling family of his sad plight.

2 Directed by Evangelist to the Wicket-gate.

3 Leaving home amid ridicule.

Nov. 22.—Hindrances in the Flight :

1 Overtaken by Pliable and Obstinate.

2 In the Slough of Despond.

3 Astray at Mount Sinai.

Nov. 29.—Entering the Straight Gate.

1 Assailed by darts—seeking admission.

2 First sene in the house of Interpreter.

3 Fire that water cannot quench.

Dec. 6.—Coming to the Cross.

1 Before the cross. The burden rolling off.

2 Met by the three shining ones.

3 Two men climbing over the wall.

Dec. 13 —The Hill Difficulty.

1 Asleep in arbor on the hillside.

2 Affrightened men running down hill.

3 Pilgrim meets the chained lions.

Dec. 20.—The Palace Beautiful.

1 The welcome within.

2 The outlook from the top.

3 Clad with the whole armor.

Dec. 27.—Passing Through the Dark Valley.

1 Conflicts with Appollyon.

2 Walking through the dark valley.

3 Emerging into light.

Jan. 4.—The town of Vanity Fair.

1 Str made by their passing through.

2 The trial of Faithful.

3 The martyrdom.

# AT EVENING TIME IT SHALL BE LIGHT.

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THE very essence of hope is in this inspiring verse. Some of us may recall a weary climb from the Vale of Zermatt up the rough acclivities of the Riffelberg, amid chilling mists and swirling gusts of tempest. The icy vapors penetrated to the marrow of our bones. At the Riffel all was blinding fog. We pushed on and upward, until, as we stood upon the Gorner Gart, the mighty cavan of cloud moved off and left the "body of the heavens in its clearness." Yonder rose the Weisshorn, a pyramid of silver, and the peaks of Monte Rosa flashed in crimson and gold. We had been suffocated in storm and fog all day; but at evening time it was light.

This has been the ten thousand times repeated experience of God's children. Gray-haired Jacob in his loneliness wails out, "Joseph is dead; Siemon is dead; now they take Benjamin also. All these things are against me." Presently the returning cavalcade arrives to tell him that Joseph is governor of Egypt, and that he is invited to come and spend his sunset of life in the best of the land that Pharaoh can offer. A long, troubled day has the patriarch weathered through; but at evening time it is light.

It is a part of God's discipline with us to hide his throne in clouds and darkness. The office of faith is to hold fast to the fact that behind those clouds a loving Father dwells upon that throne. It is the office of hope to look for the clearing of the clouds by and by. If we had no storms we should never appreciate the blue sky. The trial of the tempest is the preparation for the warm afterglow of sunshine. Blind unbelief is continually railing at God, charging him with cruelty and scouting the idea of a special providence of all-wise love. But faith whispers,

"Think it not strange, or as though some strange thing happened unto thee. God seeth the end from the beginning. To the upright there ariseth light in darkness. All things work together for good to them that love him." Hope bids us push on and upward. Push upward and you will

"Hear hope singing, sweetly singing,  
Softly in an undertone,  
Singing as if God had taught her  
It is better farther on."

Only keep pressing higher, and closer to Jesus, instead of wandering downward into doubt and sullen despair.

The darkness may be thick about thee now, brother; but the Christain life is a walk of faith. God never deceives his children. If we but keep fast hold of the Guiding Hand we shall find the road to be not one step longer or harder than is best for us. God has piloted every saint through this very road and up these very hills o' difficulty. It will be better farther on. Every chastening of a believer's soul lies at the end of a painfull ordeal. Every success worth having lies at the end of a brave, protracted struggle. Twenty years of storm must be battled through by Wilberforce and Clarkson before Negro emancipation is enacted by the British Parliament. At evening time the sky was crimsoned with the flush of victory.

This passage has a beautiful application to a Christain old age. Many people have a silly dread of growing old, and look upon gray hairs as a standing libel. But if life is well spent, its Indian Summer ought to bring a full granary and a golden leaf. The spiritual light at the gloaming of life becomes mellow; it is strained of mists and impurities. The aged believer seems to see deeper into God's Word and farther into God's heaven. Not every human life has a golden sunset. Some suns go down under a cloud. At evening time it is cold and dark. I have been looking lately at the testimonies left by two

celebrated men who died during my boyhood. One of them was the king of philanthropists. Both had lost their fortunes and lost their health.

The novelist wrote as follows: "The old post-chaise gets more shattered at every turn of the wheel. Windows will not pull up; doors refuse to open and shut. Sicknesses come thicker and faster, friends become fewer and fewer. Death has closed the long dark avenue upon early loves and friendships. I look at them as through the grated door of a burial-place filled with monuments of those once dear to me. I shall never see the threescore and ten and shall be summed up at a discount." Ah, that is not a cheerful sunset of a splendid literary career. At the evening time it looks gloomy and the air smells of the sepulchre.

Listen now to the old Christian philanthropist, whose inner life was hid with Christ in God. He writes. "I can scarce understand why my life is spared so long, except it be to show that a man can be just as happy without a fortune as with one. Sailors on a voyage drink to 'friends astern' till they are half-way across; and after that it is 'friends ahead.' With me it has been 'friends ahead' for many a year." The veteran hero was getting nearer home. The Sun of Righteousness flooded his western sky. At evening time it was light.

What a contrast there is between the death-bed of the impenitent and that of the adopted child of God, whose hope is anchored in Jesus. The one is dark; a fearful looking forward to a wrath to come. The other is the earnest expectation of an endless day which lies beyond the glorious sunset.

I have just come from the sick room of a woman whose life is ebbing away amid intense bodily suffering. It is one of the most cheerful spots in this sorrow-laden world. Jesus is watching by that bedside.

He administers the cordials. He stays up that sinking head. "I am with you always" is to her the promise and foretoken of that other state of joy, "Where I am ye shall be also." At evening time that chamber of death is light.—Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D, *American Messenger*.

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#### BRICK-BUYERS—FOR CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS.

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The Sunday School made such a success out of the brick-buyer envelopes last year, that it has been decided to have them again this year. Two hundred have been ordered, and they will be distributed among the children at once. Every envelope must be accounted for when Christmas comes so it will be important that the children should take the very best of care of their envelopes, and all the money they solicited must be brought to the church.

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#### CURRENT EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR 1896.

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Current expenses include pastor's, janitor's and choristers' salary, expenses for fuel, light and repairs. To meet these expenses in full for the year 1896, we must raise in the month of December, about \$350 00. Of this amount about \$150.00 is subscribed to be paid in weekly offerings before the first of the new year. The Christmas collections will be used for current expenses, and so also the receipts of the supper on New Years evening. By a little special effort we are certain the whole amount of \$350.00 can be raised. Let us do it and pay up in full for 1896, and then start out in the new year without any indebtedness on current expenses.

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WITHIN a little more than a month the following amounts have been raised by entertainments, dinners, etc. Supper by the ladies of the 3rd section, \$17.58; dollars earned, \$50.50; concert, \$21.55; Thanksgiving dinner, \$51.75. Total, \$141.38.



# GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher.

## BOARD OF MANAGERS.

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C. H. GUMPPER has taken charge of a class of young men in the Sabbath school. He makes a very efficient teacher, and we are glad to see him in this work.

In a recent letter from Mr. and Mrs. Archer to the pastor, they state they are having a delightful visit with their friends in Georgia. Mr. Archer's health is improving very rapidly and he will no doubt come home soon as well as ever. They send greetings to all the members of Grace church.

L. W. HILLS and the pastor recently made a day's drive out the Maysville pike, and called upon the following families: Mr. and Mrs. White, Mr. and Mrs. James Evard, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Chausse and Mr. and Mrs. Aime Chausse. We found these friends all well, and busy with their fall work.

## THE PIANO FUND.

Some time ago, circulars were sent out by the Ladies' Society to all the women in the church, asking them to earn dollars

for the payment of the piano in the church. Up to date the following ladies have reported: Mrs. A. R. Hills, \$3.00; Mrs. C. F. Close, Mrs. James Lonergan, Mrs. S. Dukeman, \$1.50 each; Mrs. Martin Blum, \$1.25; Mrs. Wells, Miss Emma Bercot, Mrs. Frank Bercot, Mrs. Edward Grosjean, Mrs. Jerome Fry, Mrs. Buck, Mrs. Weickert, Mrs. A. K. Zartment, Mrs. Geo. Soliday, Mrs. A. C. Katt, Mrs. Certia, Miss Lbbie Felker, Mrs. Herman Tapp, Mrs. F. D. Paulus, Mrs. Geo. Saffen, Mrs. John Bottger, Mrs. Fred. Shearer, Mrs. Jas. Evard, Mrs. O. Foncanon, Mrs. C. C. Gumpfer, Mrs. C. H. Gumpfer, Mrs. Perry J. Archer, Mrs. Zigler, Mrs. Boger, Mrs. Geo. Stephan, Miss Kate Wageman, Mrs. J. Rudisil, Mrs. H. Kesler, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Geo. Hesserder, Mrs. Walter Mitchel, Mrs. R. Druckenbrod, each \$1.00; Mrs. S. Frederick, Orpha Evard, Carrie Vining, Kittie Vining, Mrs. Jas. Vining, Mary Rudisil, Lizzie Rudisil, Anna Doermer, Mrs. Hively, Mrs. Neihoff, 50 cents each; Lydia Doermer, 75 cents. Total, \$50.50.

The following amounts were paid to the piano fund in monthly payments during the past year: Mrs. Jacob Rudisil, \$4.00; Mrs. Jas. Vining, \$2.25; Mrs. C. H. Gumpfer, \$5.50; Mrs. C. F. Close, \$1.25; Mrs. F. D. Paulus, \$1.85; Mrs. Zartman, \$2.85; Mrs. A. C. Katt, \$1.50; Mrs. C. Neirriter, \$2.00; Mrs. S. Dukeman, \$6.00; Mrs. Hesserder, 25 cents; Mrs. John Bottger, \$3.50; Mrs. P. J. Archer, \$3.00; Nellie French, \$6.00; Mrs. W. H. Friend, \$2.00; Mrs. Sweet, Mrs. Kessler, Mrs. Traxler, Mrs. Weickert, Mrs. Geo. Soliday, 50 cents each; Mrs. Certia, 25 cents. Total, \$41.70.

If there are still others who have dollars they wish to pay to the piano fund, the treasurer will be glad to receive the money, and the amounts will be reported in the next issue of the VISITOR. If there are any errors in the above report we shall be glad to make the corrections.

## THE ELECTION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS.

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There is perhaps no more important and responsible duty devolving upon the members of a church, than that of choosing men who shall be office bearers among them. The offices of Elder and Deacon are divine appointments, and the men chosen for these important positions should be "men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom." Paul says, "an Elder must be blameless, as the steward of God, not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre, but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate, holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gain sayers."—Titus 1:7-9. Of the deacons the same apostle says: "Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre, holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience, and let these first be proved, then let them use the office of a deacon being found blameless."—1 Tim. 3:8-10.

The Reformed church defines the office of elders and deacons as follows: "The office of the elders besides what is common to them with the ministers together with their fellow elders and deacons must faithfully discharge their respective duties. They shall aid in visiting the sick, and contribute according to their ability to the instruction, improvement and consolation of the members. In the time of the Apostles, the spiritual guides of the churches were called indiscriminately, elders and bishops, and overseers. These spiritual guides did not all labor in the word and doctrine; that is, all were not properly preachers of the word; but it was the duty of all to watch over and feed the flock."

"The office of the deacons is to collect the alms and other contributions, which are designed for the relief of the poor, or the necessities of the congregation; to distribute the alms willingly and conscientiously, and to provide for the support of the ministry of the gospel. The deacons as well as elders must be exemplary in faith and practice, that the congregation may be edified by their example."

From what is said above, the importance and sacredness of these offices is made apparent. The greatest care should be exercised in selecting men to fill these sacred positions in the church. The choosing should be made a subject of earnest prayer and thought, and then act as the Lord directs by His spirit

Then, too, it should be remembered that the officers of the church should have the hearty cooperation of the congregation, and the prayers of the church, and that in their work they may be directed by the Holy Spirit, and magnify their offices by a holy and consistent life, and direct the interests of the church to the honor and glory of God, and the salvation of men.

## HEIDELBERG CATECHISM.

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### FIRST LORD'S DAY.

Question 1. What is thy only comfort in life and in death?

Answer. That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ, who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and redeemed me from all the power of the Devil; and so preserves me, that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must work together for my salvation. Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready henceforth to live unto Him.

Question 2. How many things are necessary for thee to know, that thou in this comfort mayest live and die happy?

Answer. Three things: First, the greatness of my sin and misery. Second, how I am redeemed from all my sins and misery. Third, how I am to be thankful to God for such redemption.

#### FIRST PART—OF MAN'S MISERY.

##### SECOND LORD'S DAY.

Question 3. Whence knowest thou thy misery?

Answer. Out of the Law of God.

Question 4. What does the Law of God require of us?

Answer. This Christ teaches us in sum, Matth. 22: Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God with all thy heart and with thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment; and the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Question 5. Canst thou keep all this perfectly?

Answer. No; for I am by nature prone to hate God and my neighbor.

##### THIRD LORD'S DAY.

Question 6. Did God create man thus wicked and perverse?

Answer. No; but God created man good, and after His own image, that is, in righteousness and true holiness; that he might rightly know God his Creator, heartily love Him, and live with Him in eternal blessedness, to praise and glorify Him.

Question 7. Whence then comes this depraved nature of man?

Answer. From the fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise, whereby our nature became so corrupt, that we are all conceived and born in sin.

Question 8. But are we so depraved, that we are wholly unapt to any good and prone to all evil?

Answer. Yes; unless we are borne again by the Spirit of God.

##### FOURTH LORD'S DAY.

Question 9. Does not God then wrong man, by requiring of Him in His Law that which he cannot perform?

Answer. No; for God so made man, that he could perform it; but man through the instigation of the Devil, by willful disobedience deprived himself and all his posterity of this power.

Question 10. Will God suffer such disobedience and apostasy to go unpunished?

Answer. By no means; but He is terribly displeased with our inborn as well as actual sins, and will punish them in just judgment in time and eternity, as He has declared: Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.

Question 11. Is then God not also merciful?

Answer. God is indeed merciful, but He is likewise just; wherefore His justice requires that sin, which is committed against the most high majesty of God, be also punished with extreme, that is, with everlasting punishment both of body and soul.

#### SUBSCRIPTION CARDS.

When the financial secretary will send out the yearly statement cards, he will enclose also subscription cards for the current expenses of the church for 1897. All the members of the church will be furnished with these cards, and we hope every member will fill out a card, pledging some amount to be paid weekly whatever it may be. Let each give just as the Lord has prospered him. In some of our families every one pays some amount weekly. This is a good plan as it teaches all to give, and inculcates the spirit of liberality in the hearts of the children. When you receive your cards fill them out at once and return them to the secretary, Chas. H. Gumpfer.



WE have ordered 100 copies of Sankey's new song book, entitled, Sacred Songs No. 1. This is a new series of Gospel hymns. We intend to use the books in the Sunday school and in our Gospel services on Sabbath evening. These books will be the property of the church and must not under any consideration be taken away from the church.

#### THE THANKSGIVING DINNER.

There had been so much said about hard times within the past few months that we hesitated somewhat about announcing our annual Thanksgiving dinner. We felt, that possibly the people might not feel disposed to furnish for the dinner as in former years, but in this we were happily disappointed. A bare announcement from the pulpit to the congregation that the ladies would serve their annual dinner, and that they wanted turkeys, chickens and other provisions for this purpose, brought in a larger supply than was needed. Some of the cash donated was left, and provisions to the amount of five or six dollars worth were sold to the highest bidder, after the dinner was over. Never before did our people respond more liberally and cheerfully than this year. As a specimen of the spirit in which they gave we give the following:

MARIETTA, GA., Nov. 21, 1896.

MR. COVERDALE, (Grocer):

Send to Grace Reformed church, Nov. 25th, one fine, fat turkey for Thanksgiving dinner, and charge to my account.

PERRY J. ARCHER.

Mr. Archer also gave the ladies an order on the Wayne Baking Co., for a supply of their fine crackers. This is the spirit in which we like to see people give.

Nothing needs to be said about the dinner, it was able to speak for itself. Every person enjoyed it and had a good time. We were sorry that a number of our families on account of sickness and for other reasons could not eat their dinners with us. The net receipts of the dinner were \$51.75.

RUIE AND CLARE LICKELY now reside on Wall street, at 129, in the far western part of the city. When they first moved they started to a Sabbath school in that part of the city, but they have come back to our school again. They are happy to be back and we are happy to have them with us again. They have always been such faithful children that we do not want to part with them.

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**PRAYER MEETING TOPICS AND LEADERS.**

Dec. 6. How to strengthen our faith in Christianity. Mark 9: 14-29. L. W. Hills.

Dec. 13. Lessons from Solomon's life and writings. 1 Kings 3: 5-15. Mary Rudisil.

Dec. 20. Joys that were born into the world with Christ. Luke 2: 8-20. Nellie French. (A Christmas song service suggested.)

Dec. 27. One spiritual truth I have learned this year. Ps. 90: 1-17. A. K. Zartman.

**A JUNIOR SOCIETY.**

Recently a Junior Christian Endeavor Society was organized with thirty-seven members. The following officers were elected: President, Bessie Tapp; Vice-President, Ross Masterson; Secretary, Nellie Wyckoff; Treasurer, Hazel Kepingler. The Society has also a committee to arrange programs for their meetings. They will have recitations, solos and quartettes and scripture reading, etc. The society will meet every two weeks. We judge from the beginning the Juniors made, that they will have one of the best societies in the Church. We understand that before long they intend to give an entertainment in the lecture rooms of the church, we are certain it will be first-class. The boys and girls are very anxious to increase the membership of the society and we hope that at least fifty or more, of the other boys and girls in the Sabbath School will join in with them. The Society ought to have a membership of one hundred.

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